



April 26, 2023

Meera Joshi, Chair
Hudson River Park Trust
353 West Street, Pier 40, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10014

Basil Seggos, Vice Chair
Hudson River Park Trust
353 West Street, Pier 40, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10014

Re: HRP AC Pier 98 SPEDES Permit Renewal Resolution

Dear Chair Joshi and Vice Chair Seggos:

The State of New York designated the waters in the Hudson River Park under the protection of the state Department of Environmental Conservation in 1998. We appreciate that state DEC has limited staffing and resources and normally depends on regulated entities for the primary responsibility to minimize the environmental impacts of their activities, monitor their facilities and report any deviations from pollution levels authorized under their State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permits.

Hudson River Park Advisory Council urges the Department of Environmental Conservation to play a more active role than it normally does, considering its responsibility is to protect and restore the estuarine sanctuary and work with Con Edison to transition its operations to systems that minimize future pollution discharges at Pier 98 in Hudson River Park.

State DEC is also a statutory member of the Hudson River Park Trust's board of directors and has an additional responsibility to protect 17 million annual Park visitors and 68,000 non-motorized boaters who used that waterway last year. The Hudson River Park Trust's River Project is a robust research and education program. Their staff have relationships with academic and research institutions and foundations.

The Advisory Council recommends that state DEC consider our concerns regarding temperature thresholds and monitoring and limit thermal discharges at Pier 98 to the 188 days per year Con Edison states that it needs river water for cooling. Background information is available upon request. Most importantly, the Council urges that state DEC work more closely with Con Edison and in partnership with the Trust to facilitate the transition of Con Edison's operations at Pier 98 to state-of-the-art technologies that will conserve precious water resources and minimize impacts of wastewater discharges into the Hudson River Park estuarine sanctuary.

Unanimously approved by members of the Hudson River Park Advisory Council.

Respectfully from the Chair, 1st Vice Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair of the Hudson River Park Advisory Council,

Daniel Miller, CB2

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Tammy Meltzer, CB1

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Jeffrey LeFrancois, CB4

Handwritten signature of Jeffrey LeFrancois in black ink.